CLEAN VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE TO SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 2, line 27 with the following paragraph:

In accordance with the foregoing objects, the present invention is embodied in a cartridge having a plurality of test cells. Each cell is adapted for receiving an aliquot part of a blood sample. A measured amount of platelet activating reagent is applied in the reaction chamber of each cell as a dried fill. The amount of reagent in each cell differs from the amount of reagent in each other cell, at least one of the cells containing no platelet activating reagent. Additionally, amounts of heparin or protamine may be added in each cell either as a liquid or a dried fill. The cells also include a clotting reagent such as kaolin which on use of the cartridge is inserted into the reaction chamber and mixed with the blood and platelet activating reagent. The relative clotting times of the samples in each of the cells are measured and, when compared to a standard and each other, determine the platelet functionality of the blood sample.

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 3, line 25 with the following paragraph:

The present invention is embodied in a test cartridge 10 having a plurality of test cells 11, preferably six such cells, depending from and integral with a cartridge plate 12 having a front depending skirt or panel 14. The cartridge is adapted to be inserted into a test apparatus such as shown and described in detail in U.S. Pat. No. 4,599,219 for the determination of the clotting time of an aliquot blood sample inserted into each test cell 11 as described in detail in said patent. Each cell is formed by a downwardly tapered tube 15 defining an inwardly projecting annular seat 16 intermediate its ends and in turn defining an upper sealing surface 18 and a lower sealing surface 19. A resilient flexible sliding plug 20 is positioned in the lower end of the tube 15 while a plunger 21 defined by a plunger shaft 22 and a sealing washer or disk 24 is positioned in the upper portion of the tube. The sealing washer 24 seats against the upper sealing surface 18 of the annular seat and defines with the plug 20 a lower clotting reagent chamber 25. The tube 15 defines above the washer 24 an upper cell reaction chamber 26. At its upper end the plunger 21 defines a flag 28 and is adapted for engagement by the test machine (not shown).

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 4, line 23, with the following paragraph:

In accordance with the present invention, a measured amount of a chemical platelet

activating factor or reagent 30 is provided in the top or upper reaction chamber 26 as a dried fill. This platelet activating factor composition is dissolved in the blood sample when the blood sample is introduced into the upper reaction chamber 26 and the clotting reagent 29 is added and mixed therein. Additionally, selected amounts of heparin or protamine may be utilized as a dried fill in the upper reaction chamber 26, depending on the chemical procedure to be utilized.

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Please replace the paragraph starting page 6, on line 8, with the following paragraph:

After introducing the blood samples in each upper reaction chamber 26, the clotting reagent is inserted into each upper reaction chamber and the clotting time of the blood in each cell is determined. From the clotting time for each cell, the clot ratio is calculated. Clot ratio is the ratio of the clotting times for cells C, D, E and F compared to the average control clotting times for cells A and B. Platelet function is expressed as a percentage of the maximum clot ratio response observed in a normal population. This value of a normal population response is known and can be used to compute the clot ratio percentage which is in turn indicative of the platelet functionality. Any appropriate desired calculation may be made from the relative clotting times in each cell. The platelet functionality can in turn be utilized to determine blood loss during surgery and the need for a blood transfusion. The platelet functionality further assists in managing heparin therapy during cardiac surgery.

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